

Grafton Longden Retires After Nearly 55 Years of Service

It was with great pleasure when I accompanied John Curran, Meteorologist in Charge of the National Weather Service Forecast Office in Indianapolis, and Albert Shipe, the Service Hydrologist, to a small retirement ceremony for one of the oldest and longest serving cooperative observers in Indiana.

Grafton Longden started as a cooperative weather observer on January 22, 1947. Over the span of his career he was awarded numerous plaques and citations honoring his dedication and service to both the National Weather Service and the Greencastle community. His outstanding service was also rewarded with the John Campanius Holm Award for excellence in cooperative observations.

Grafton's enthusiasm and interest for the cooperative program grew over the years. He saw many changes in the National Weather Service with new equipment and better technology to record and report his data. His determination to continue for several more years was evident even after moving into a retirement center.

The staff of the National Weather Service presented **Grafton** with a certificate of Achievement along with an electronic indoor/outdoor thermometer to keep his friends and the staff of the Autumn Glen community informed on what's going on with the weather.

Congratulations **Grafton** and thank you for your endless contributions to the National Weather Service and to the residents of Greencastle and Putnam County.

Michael Shartran, DAPM, IND

Goodbye Old Friends And Hello New Faces

The National Weather Service extends a warm welcome to the following new Cooperative Weather Observers and a fond farewell and best wishes to those who are parting.

HENRY WALLIS – Danville

LARRY YODER–Brownsburg /Speedway

Henry will record daily precipitation at his home in Danville. Although now an official Cooperative Weather Observer, the chore of taking the observations will not actually be a new one for Henry, since he has been keeping precipitation records in Danville for the past several years. The Danville station will replace the Brownsburg site which closed when Larry Yoder moved to Speedway to become the Cooperative Weather Observer there.

DEREK KIDWELL – Burlington

JEREMY CRUME – Burlington

Jeremy Crume has done an excellent job of maintaining the Fischer & Porter raingage at Burlington for the past six years. Jeremy has hung up his role as the weather observer so that he could ascend to greater heights as a pilot for American Eagle Airlines. Jeremy's cooperative weather duties will now be picked up by Derek Kidwell. Derek, in addition to becoming a newlywed, is also the Burlington Town Marshall.

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